

## NEW YEAR FINDS ALUMNI FUND AT \$18,850

### FIELDHOUSE DEDICATION POSTPONED

#### BOARD DECIDES TO HOLD CEREMONY NEXT SEASON

The fieldhouse dedication will be postponed until the opening of next basketball season, it was announced by the Board of Athletic Control.

It is possible that the structure will be completed by the end of the current season, but the board prefers to set the date far enough in the future; so that there will be no chance of a hitch.

Another advantage of delaying the dedication is that by fall the approach to the fieldhouse will be landscaped, parking facilities will be taken care of, and every part of the structure, down to the smallest details, will have a finished look.

### Dayton Fetes Team

DAYTON, O.—The St. Joseph's basketball team was feted by the Dayton Chapter, Saturday night, December 14, in Kuntz' Cafe, following the St. Joe-Dayton U. basketball game.

Alumni were also present from Midwestern Ohio and Cincinnati Chapters when the players were introduced, and when talks were given by the Very Rev. Dr. Aloys Dirksen, C.P.P.S., president of the college, and Coach Joe Dienhart.

Ralph T. Ryan, '16-'18, president of the unit, presented to Fr. Dirksen the pledge cards that his committee had collected to date, and promised that the organization would continue its work on the field house fund.

### THE MEN WHO CAME TO DINNER



The men on this speakers' table united their ability to make the annual Cook County alumni-student banquet a very enjoyable affair January 2, in the Hotel Sherman. Left to right are, the Rev. Sylvester Ley, C.P.P.S., historian of the Alumni Association; Coach Joe Dienhart; J. Gordon Hagstrom, executive committeeman of the association; the Rev. Frederick Fehrenbacher, C.P.P.S., vice-president of the college; F. C. Quirk, president of the host chapter; Edgar Munzel, publicity director for the Chicago White Sox and former sports writer for the Chicago Herald-American, and Maurice Pauley, executive secretary of the American Softball Association.

### Cook County Chapter Climaxes Christmas Cheer Celebration

CHICAGO—One hundred and twenty-five persons attended the second annual alumni-student banquet, sponsored by the Cook County Chapter, Thursday night, January 2, in the Old Town Room, of the Hotel Sherman.

Edgar Munzel, publicity director for the Chicago White Sox and former sports writer for the Chicago Herald-Examiner, was the guest speaker.

F. C. Quirk, Jr., '21-'23, presi-

#### DON'T FORGET

A meeting of the Cook County Chapter will be held January 28, at Sieben's 1644 Larrabee, according to an announcement of F. C. Quirk, the unit's president.

dent of the Chicago alumni organization, acted as toastmaster.

In his preliminary remarks, he explained that the banquet was given annually that students would be well acquainted with the alumni by the time graduation made them eligible for membership in the chapter.

The Rev. Frederick Fehrenbacher, C.P.P.S., '17-'22, as vice-president of St. Joseph's, addressed the assembly in the name of the college.

Vincent Boeke, '25-'27, secretary-treasurer of the Cook County unit, pointed out that it was part of the work of the alumni (Continued on Page Four; Col. Two)

### THREE UNITS SEND REPORTS ON DRIVE

#### ASSOCIATION PASSES ONE-FOURTH MARK EN ROUTE TO GOAL

In spite of the lull which settled over the fieldhouse drive work during the holidays, the fund has climbed to \$18,850, which is one-fourth of the route to the \$75,000 goal.

Correspondence from several chapters during the first week in January indicates that field work is being resumed.

A. H. Knapke, '98-'02, president of the Midwestern Ohio Chapter; Ralph T. Ryan, '16-'18, president of the Dayton Chapter, and Arnold A. Hackman, '24-'25, president of the Cincinnati Chapter, recently turned in checks that had been collected by members of their organization. They said that the drive is now getting up full steam in their localities.

Mr. Knapke said: "I have been having fine reception from all the boys. They give with real spirit. That is an asset that cannot be measured in dollars. But it has a value that cannot depreciate."

Several chapters have not yet given a report of their activities to the Alumni Office. Until this is done, fieldhouse fund officials can give only an approximate figure to indicate the progress of the drive.

#### FLU DEFEATS COLONELS

LOUISVILLE.—A flu epidemic worked havoc with plans for an alumni-student dinner which was to be sponsored during the holidays by the Louisville Chapter. The grads intended to fete the seventeen Louisvillians now enrolled at St. Joe. The date was set for Dec. 23. Because of the epidemic, however, the affair was cancelled.



# CONTACT

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Editors

Edward W. Fischer — Sylvester H. Ley, C.P.P.S.

## DON'T BE BASHFUL

A fieldhouse pledge blank has been sent to every alumnus. If you misplaced yours, don't feel bad about it. Just write your name, address, and amount of donation on a slip of paper and mail it to the alumni office.

If you do not wish to give your donation to the chapter president, you can send it direct to the college.

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The Rev. S. F. Widman, C.P.P.S., '25-'28, chaplain at the Alexian Brothers Hospital, St. Louis, writes that Louis Bickford, '39-'40, is pursuing the nursing profession at that institution. He also sent information that Brother Ferdinand Schmitt, C. F. A., '01-'04, died November 25.

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The Rev. Warren Abrahamson, '26-'31, is faculty adviser of the Pinomago, the very up and at 'em student publication of Pionono High School, St. Francis, Wisc.

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According to the St. Joe catalog of '95-'96, students rolled out at 5 a. m., and rolled back in at 8:30 p. m. . . Board, tuition, lodging, and laundry amounted to \$80 a semester . . . Ten men were on the faculty.

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The first annual commencement was held at St. Joseph's, Tuesday night, June 16, 1896. On the previous evening, "The Merchant of Venice" was presented. Tuesday morning, the Rt. Rev. Joseph Rademacher, D. D., bishop of Fort Wayne, pontificated at a Solemn Mass. The baccalaureate sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. F. Delaney, rector of St. Patrick's, Fort Wayne. The salutatory was given by John C. Wakefer; the class oration by Thomas M. Conroy, and the valedictory by John F. Cogan. The class history was read by James J. Betsner. A Latin address was given by Joseph R. Waechter; a Greek address by Christian F. Daniel; a German address by Joseph Abel, and a French address by Bartholomew F. Besinger.

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Edgar Munzel, publicity director for the Chicago White Sox, told F. C. Quirk, president of the Cook County unit, that he would bring several Sox ball players to the Chapter's annual golf tournament next summer.

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN, in the person of Joseph Bechtold, freed the slaves, was assassinated, and did everything but recite the Gettysburg address, March 11, 1923. John Medland was General Meade, and William Lutfy was Booth.

## THE PLAY'S THE THING

OLD PLAY PROGRAMS were uncovered by Brother Dave Schneider, when he packed his belongings to move from one room to another. Any alumnus could spend a pleasant half hour leafing through them. Here are some of the things he would notice:

WILLIAM TELL, a tragedy in five acts, by the Very Rev. J. H. Oechtering, of Fort Wayne, was presented by the C. L. S. on the eve of commencement, June 14, 1900, with Idphonse Rapp carrying the title role. Joseph Naughton was his son, Walter. The dramatic personae also included William Arnold, Paul Welsh, William Hordeman, Ernest Hefe, and Cyril Mohr.



Dave Schneider

TWO NAMES were tied to the same play presented twice in five years in the college auditorium. "The College Freshmen" was given November 26, 1924; "The High School Freshman" was given December 7, 1929. Why the change in name? The first presentation was by the C. L. S., a college group; the second was by the Newman Club, a high school organization. The lead role of the freshman was carried in the first by James Hoban; in the second by Herman Schnurr. The villain in the first play was Clemens Koors; in the second Fred Cardinali. Si Harris, a country product who solves all the difficulties, was played by Russell Scheidler on the first round and Frank Novak on the second.

THREE WISE FOOLS is another play that was presented twice. The three leads in the first production, June 9, 1925, were James Hoban, Charles Boldrick, and Sylvester Schmelzer; in the second production, May 1, 1932, they were Leonard Fullenkamp, Stanislaus Manoski, and Joseph O'Leary.

JULIUS CAESAR trod the boards again, on Thanksgiving eve of 1915, in the person of Mathias Lause. With Theodore Fettig as Brutus; Robert Laughrey as Cassius, and Paul Barrett as Mark Anthony, C. L. S. history was made.

THE GLOW WORM was played at both presentations of "Believe Me, Xantippe." It was first staged in Collegeville December 21, 1924, with Harry Estadt and Raymond Dirrig playing lead roles. On the return engagement, November 29, 1933, William McKune and Alfred Horrigan were tops.



Alfred Horrigan

A REGULAR SCREAM was first played behind local footlights, November 30, 1916. Featured were Mathias Lause, William Deutsch, Joseph Lutkemeier, and Anthony Tompkins. It was produced again, November 29, 1922, with Alphonse Uhrich, Leo Gattes, Erasmus Gengler, and Raymond Osterhage reciting quite a few lines.

## THE ROUNDUP

by

Coach Joe Dienhart



TWO OF THE GREATEST athletes in the history of Rensselaer high school, Bud Bowman and Ed Schmidt, are starring with St. Joe this year. Bowman, former captain of Rensselaer, is exceptionally fast, and has a very good long shot. Schmidt is aggressive to the point of playing a rough and tumble ball game.

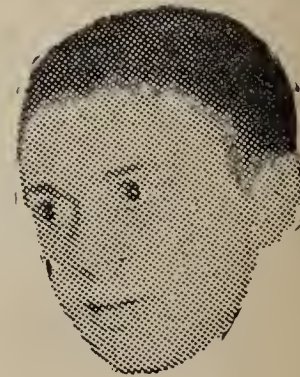
THE RECORD for the season to date is four wins and three losses. We defeated Huntington, Loras, Illinois Wesleyan, Illinois State Normal University; we lost to Purdue, Dayton, and Toledo.

TEN GOOD GAMES will be put on tap, before the next issue of CONTACT. They are: Jan. 13, Illinois Wesleyan, at Rensselaer; Jan. 17, St. Norbert, at West DePere, Wisc.; Jan. 18, Carroll College, at Waukesha, Wisc.; Jan. 27, University of Mexico, at Rensselaer; Jan. 28, Central Normal, at Danville, Ind.; Jan. 31, Valparaiso, at Rensselaer; Feb. 4, Xavier, at Cincinnati; Feb. 6, John Carroll, at Rensselaer; Feb. 10, Evansville, at Jasper, Ind., and Feb. 13, Central Normal, at Rensselaer.



Ed Schmidt

PROSPECTS? Well, Illinois Wesleyan and St. Joe contests are always close. Each team has won two games in their four game series so far. We've always defeated St. Norbert in basketball, but the Green Knights are due to take one from us any time now. We don't know much about Carroll... Just what kind of team Coach Hector



"Bud" Bowman

Cardenas Barrios is going to bring up from south of the border, the Lord only knows... Central Normal hasn't been losing ball games . . . Valparaiso, Xavier, and John Carroll are always good . . . That Evansville game at Jasper is going to draw a big crowd. Wilfred Doerner, Purple Ace star, has been averaging 21 points a game. He is out to break the 300 point record set by Neal Mosser last year. A lot of people will come miles to see those high scorers come face to face. On top of it all, three former Jasper captains, Mauri Gutgsell, Urban Pfeffer, and Bernie Hoffman, are in St. Joe's starting lineup. That game will be the Louisville Alumni's best chance to see the Pumas in action.



## South Bend Alumnus Is Dean

SOUTH BEND, IND.—The Rev. John Sabo, '19-'24, pastor of Our Lady of Hungary Church, has been appointed dean of the South Bend deanery. He succeeds the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Felix Seroczynski, '93-'99, who recently was transferred from Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, in North Judson, to a pastorate in Muncie, Ind.

Father Sabo, who also is diocesan director of the National Organization for Decent Literature, has been active since 1937 in purging magazine racks in the South Bend deanery of salacious literature and was one of the principals in a campaign against indecent magazines which in the fall of 1937 was started in South Bend and became a nation-wide drive.

## REMEMBERED



DR. JOSEPH LILL.

One of the most prominent physicians in Fort Wayne is Dr. Joseph Lill, '09-'13, of 3402 Hanna Street. Whenever old-timers get together at an alumni gathering and start talking baseball, the name of Joe Lill usually comes up, because of his former pitching ability.

## MEET IN PENNSYLVANIA

Four alumni frequently get together at Clarks Summit, Pa. The Rev. Valerian Volin, C.P.P.S., '30-'34, is curate at Our Lady of the Snows Church, Clarks Summit, and the Revs. Charles Mag-sam, '22-'28, M.M.; Joseph Wittkofski, M.M., '26-'32, and Thomas Danehy, M.M., '31-'33, all professors at Maryknoll College, Clarks Summit.

## Chris Hankemeier, Of The News, Lauds St. Joe Man In Sports Series

By Chris Hankemeier

Whenever St. Joseph's College Alumni sit around in a hot stove league session, the conversation sooner or later turns to Ferd Wellman, who was one of the greatest athletes in the Rensselaer school's 50-year history.

Ferdinand J. Wellman, 41, construction engineer for the Rostone Corporation, Lafayette, Ind., attended St. Joseph's from 1915 until 1920. In those days, St. Joe was a high school and junior college. It did not become a senior college until 1936.

Wellman came from Fort Recovery, O., to the campus at Rensselaer as a high school freshman. What is referred to as a varsity now was called Reps then. There weren't separate Rep teams for the high school and the college departments. The cream of the crop on the campus, whether high school youth or collegian, formed one team which

## THANKS

Through the courtesy of the Indianapolis News, and Chris Hankemeier, sports writer, we present this article which appeared in The News, December 18, 1940. It was one of a very fine series of articles built around great Hoosier athletes.

represented St. Joseph's. And so it was that young Wellman found himself in college competition shortly after he was out of short breeches.

St. Joe schedules, in the days when Wellman starred in three sports, included the names of St. Viator College, Valparaiso University, Detroit University, and DePaul University.

Wellman had never seen a football game around Fort Recovery. When Coach Harry (Dad) Parker saw the big, rangy kid on the campus he asked Wellman to go out for football. That's how it was that Ferd played in the first football game he ever saw.

"If I only had a movie of that first game," says Wellman today. "I didn't know much about the rules. I was playing roving center when Jack Bruin, the fullback, (Now the Rev. John Bruin, of Payne, O.) slapped me on the back and said, 'When that left half comes through rub his face in the dirt.' I took him more literally than he meant me too. I can still see the glare the official gave me as he stepped off fifteen yards for unnecessary roughness.



FERD WELLMAN

Whenever I hear an unnecessary roughness penalty over the radio, I always think of Jack Bruin and his advice."

Wellman didn't earn a letter as a high school freshman, but as a sophomore he began collecting monograms in all three sports. When the star athlete from Fort Recovery closed his career at St. Joe as center on the basketball team; fullback on the football Reps, and pitcher on the baseball varsity, he went to Purdue. There he earned six major letters in football and basketball. He didn't go out for baseball, because his engineering studies demanded that he spend quite a few of those

## HERE and THERE

A snappy new publication, **THE INFORMER**, has as its editor-in-chief John Dalton, '28-'34. The paper, published twice a month, is sponsored by the Mansfield, (Ohio), Junior Association of Commerce.

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A clever Christmas card came from Max C. Toner, '07-'10, a Los Angeles detective. It bears a picture of Mr. Toner with a ballad of reminiscences written by him.

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Optimism drips from a letter written by Joseph (Ox) Wheatley, '31-'33, of Tipton, Ind. Here is a quotation from it: "I married Martha Nile Bowlin, of Tipton, in November, 1938. On December 9, 1940, I became the proud father of a seven and one-half pound boy. Named him Stephen. I am employed as a toolgrinder at the Delco-Remy Division of General Motors Corp., Anderson, and I like my trade. Work is swell. Wife is swell. Baby is swell!"

—o—

Bernard (King) Brady, '10-'11, of Anderson, Ind., and sheriff of Madison county, was elected president of the Indiana Sheriff's Association, at a meeting in Fort Wayne. This flash was sent in by our Huntington, Ind., correspondent, Carl B. Neuer, '14-'16, who is head man of the Neuer Supply Company, distributors of sanitary supplies and chemicals.

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William Melloh, '38-'39, of Indianapolis, is the father of a boy. The youngster was named Charles, after its uncle, Representative Charles Halleck, (R.), of Rensselaer. The mother is the former Lyda Milner, of Rensselaer.

spring afternoons in the "lab."

As a senior, Wellman was captain of the Boilermaker basketball team. Upon graduation, he received the Western Conference Medal for scholarship and athletic prowess.

Two years after graduation, Wellman married Kathryn Cassel. At present they live in Lafayette and have four children, two boys and two girls.



## Gene Krupa Speaks At Holiday Dinner In Chicago

"Father Ley, sitting over there, didn't teach me much algebra and Father Ildephonse, as you have probably noticed, didn't do so well teaching me public speaking," said Gene Krupa at the Cook County alumni-student banquet.

That might be true, but somewhere along the line someone did a mighty good job of teaching Gene to pound the drums.

Krupa, who was enrolled at St. Joe in '24 and '25, ranks as the



GENE KRUPA

country's number one drummer.

He is a great showman, and when surrounded by drums he acts like a madman. He mistreats those hides as they have never been mistreated before. It's a case of assault and battery with intent to kill as far as he and the drums are concerned. But once the sticks are out of his hands, he is just a shy, sad-eyed fellow who likes to talk about other days.

Right after he had left St. Joe, his mother bought him his first set of snares, and he started out on his own. He beat the skins till he loosened the plaster in every joint in Chicago. He started out in dives that featured beer, and worked himself up to champagne-serving rendezvous.

Krupa got hooked-up with Goodman's outfit and began to drum his way to fame. It wasn't long before Gene was beginning to take more encores than Benny. Now, having two

## Alumnus Writes Of Experiences As Deacon In Russian Church

BY MAURICE MEYERS, S. J.  
Contact Correspondent.

SHANGHAI.—The war chased me out of Italy. But instead of returning to the United States, I went out the back way through the Balkans, Turkey, India to Shanghai.

Before coming here, I was ordained a deacon in the Russian rite; so that I could help out in our Russian Catholic mission. It's a struggling, little place, none the less it's the largest Catholic Russian parish in the world. I am more or less a half-time missionary. My efforts are divided between studying theology in the scholasticat and serving as deacon in the Russian church.

A Russian deacon has no small task. He does most of the singing at the services, and with us every service is sung. He does nearly all the incensing, and the Russians have plenty. He elevates the Sacred Species at the Consecration; drinks from the chalice at the communion; consumes the particles left after communion, and purifies the chalice.

Besides liturgical duties, I am trying to work with our boys' club to make it a cheerful place where our parishioners can bring their orthodox friends. It's to keep the boys out of the host of troubles that threaten from all sides in Shanghai.

Accompanying this story is a picture of myself; so you can see what the well-dressed Russian deacon wears. I wonder how many of the fellows who attended St. Joe from '26-'30 would recognize me.

I'm going to include my new address here with the hope that

stars in the same band is as embarrassing as having two cooks in the same kitchen. So Gene thought it best for all concerned that he get a swing band of his own.

### CHICAGOANS CLIMAX CHRISTMAS CHEER

(Continued From Page One)  
to spread propaganda in favor of St. Joseph's.

Edward Fischer, '28-'34, secretary-treasurer of the national alumni organization, outlined the advancements made at St. Joseph's.

J. G. Hagstrom, '19-'24, member of the national executive board, pointed out to the students in what way St. Joe was giving them a true philosophy of



MAURICE MEYERS, S. J.

some of my former classmates will drop me a few lines. Way over here, words from old friends are especially welcome. I resolve to answer every word promptly.

My address is: Maurice Meyers, S. J., Scholasticat, Zi-ka-wei, Shanghai, China.

life.

Gene Krupa, '24-'25, band leader, spoke a few words to the assembly.

Coach Joe Dienhart outlined a job for teachers in the national defense plan.

F. M. Thuerk, representing the fathers of the students, paid tribute to St. Joseph's and to its alumni.

Maurice J. Pauley, '08-'09, executive secretary of the Softball Association of America, discussed supervised recreation.

The Rev. Sylvester Ley, C.P.P.S., '13-'18, addressed the group as chaplain of the Chicago unit.

Herbert Vilim, as spokesman for the students, thanked the alumni.

## Saginaw Forms Sixteenth Unit

SAGINAW, MICH.—A new alumni chapter, formed here January 2, brings the number of units in the association up to sixteen.

Charter officers are: President Andrew G. Bourdow, '36-'38; vice-president, Edward Spagnuolo, '37-'39; secretary, Paul A. Weaver, '33-'34.

The Rev. Albert E. Gordon, C.P.P.S., '25-'29, a former Saginawian, attended the meeting. Guests were Albert Hurley and Raymond C. Kain, Saginaw students at the college.

## BACK HOME



REV. CYRIL KNUE

Two alumni, the Revs. Cyril Knue, C.P.P.S., '15-'18, and John Kostik, C.P.P.S., '09-'15, walked down the gang-plank of the S. S. Excalibur, Dec. 16, glad that their hectic stay in Europe was ended.

They left Rome on November 20, travelled via rail and bus through Switzerland, Southern France, Spain and Portugal to Lisbon, where they embarked on December 6.

Both priests, in spite of their familiarity with blackouts, air raid alarms, and refugee trains, said that the hardest thing to bear was the uncertainty of things. They explained that a foreigner in Europe never knows when an incident will occur which may mean for him arrest and a concentration camp. American citizenship is no guarantee.